

hi from ann



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I get so many tweets and FB messages asking what **my job** is like at *Seventeen*—and how you can snag it one day! The best part of this gig? Reading your messages! (If you follow me, you know I tweet back at random hours, too!)

Recently I've heard from some girls who were concerned that we'd strayed from our promise to show **real girls** as they really are. A lot of the comments were about Photoshopping or digitally enhancing photos. Readers wondered if we had gone too far. Like all magazines, we retouch images—removing wrinkles in fabric, stray hairs, a few zits, random bra straps—but we *never* alter the way the **girls** on our pages really look. It's crucial that we represent girls of all shapes, sizes, and skin tones for their **real beauty**. Our Body Peace Project is one of the cornerstones of our mission: We want every girl to stop obsessing about what her body looks like and start **appreciating** it for what it can do!

And while we work hard behind the scenes to make sure we're being authentic, your notes made me realize that it was time for us to be more public about our **commitment**. So we created a **Body Peace Treaty** for the magazine staff—a list of vows on how we run things here so we always make you feel *amazing*! And we've gotten some pretty **major friends** to support us: The National Eating Disorders Association; Healthy MEdia: Commission for Positive Images of Women and Girls; and our own Body Peace guru, Jessica Weiner. Plus, to show how **serious** we are, *everyone* on staff has signed it!

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seventeen magazine's BODY PEACE TREATY

We vow to...

- Help make your life amazing! You have **big dreams** and we want you to achieve every single one of them!
- Never change girls' body or face shapes. (Never have, never will.)
- Celebrate **every kind of beauty** in our pages. Without a range of body types, skin tones, heights, and hair textures, the magazine—and the world—would be boring!
- Always feature real girls and models who are healthy. Regardless of clothing size, being healthy is about honoring your natural shape.
- Be totally up-front about what goes into our photo shoots. You can go **behind the scenes** on our Tumblr (seventeen.tumblr.com) and see the whole shebang!
- Help you make the **best choices** for your body—food that fuels you, exercise that energizes you—so you can feel your absolute best each day.
- Give you the confidence to walk into any room and **own it**. Say bye-bye to those nagging insecurities that you're not good enough or pretty enough—they're holding you back from being awesome in the world!
- **Listen carefully to you**. If something in the magazine confuses you or makes you feel bad, we want hear about it. You can e-mail us anytime at mail@seventeen.com or reach out to me directly at ann@seventeen.com.

XOXO
-A.

what really changes!



Here's a peek at the minor tweaks we made to a fashion picture of Magdalena, 21. A few messy details—cleaned up. Her gorgeous smile—totally authentic!



@ANNSHOKET Tweet me anytime!

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